This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(Currently Amended): A canonic dye Cationic dyes of the general formula I 1. $CAT^{\dagger}Y^{-}$ (I),

wherein

CAT' is a cation selected from azine, xanthene, polymethine, styryl, azo, tetrazoljum, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium, benzothiopyrylium, thiazine, oxazine triarylmethane, diarylmethane, actidine, quinoline, isoquinoline, and quaternized azafluorenone dyes.

where Y' is an anion selected from the group CAB', FAP', FAB', and of Im',

where

CAB' conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{y1}F_{4-y1-x1}(R^0)_{x1}]$$
 (II-1),

und

is denetes 1, 2, 3 or 4, уl

is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3, and x1

is denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloatkyl or alkyl-Rΰ aryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{p2}F_{2p2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2),

with

p2 [[:]] is 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

FAB conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{n3}F_{2n3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3)₂

with

p3 [[.]] is 1 to 20,

m3 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y3 [[.]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

whore

Im' conforms to the general formula (II-4)

 $[(C_{y4}F_{2p4+1-m4}H_{m4}XO_{y4})N(C_qF_{2q+1-k}H_kXO_{y4})]^{-}$ (II-4).

and the variables

- X is donotes carbon or sulfur,
- p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$,
- q is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$,
- y4 15 denotes 1 or 2,

where

m4 <u>is</u> [[=]] 0 if p4 is [[=]] 0, and

k <u>is [[=]] 0 if q is [[=]] 0, and</u>

the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by P:

with the proviso provisos that

If X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1, and and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl churn of the formula Ω 4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F₁

and

CAT*-is a cation selected from the group of the azine, xunthene, polymethine, styryl, uze, tetrazolum, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium, benzethiopyrylium, thiuzine, oxuzine, triarylmethane, diarylmethane, aeridine, quineline, isoquineline or quaternised azafluerenene dyes;

where 3,3'-diethoxyethyl-2,2'-thiadicarbocyanine trifluoromethyltrilluoroborate is excluded.

- (Currently Amended). A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-2. ised in that CAT' is a cation of an azine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-3. used in that CAT' is a cution of a xanthene dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dyc Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-4. in that CAT' is a carron of a polymethine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-5. ised in that CAT' is a cation of a styryl dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that CAT is a cation of an azo dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-7. ised in that CAT' is a cation of a tetrazolium dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-8. isod in that CAT* is a cation of a pyrylium dye
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised-in that CAT' is a cation of a benzopyrylium dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character-10. ised in that CAT* is a cation of a thiopyryhum dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dve Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that CAT is a canon of a benzothiopyrylium dye.

- 12 (Currently Amended): A dye Dyos according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that CAT' 13 a cation of a thiazine dye.
- 13. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that CAT is a cation of an exazine dye.
- 14. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character is a cation of a triarylmethane dye.
- 15. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that ' is a cation of a diarylmethane dye.
- 16. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character ised in that CAT is a cation of an acridine dye.
- 17. (Currently Amended): A dve Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein characterised in that CAT is a cauon of a quinoline dye.
- 18. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 1, wherein character isod in that CAT is a cation of an isoquinoline dye.
- 19. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyos according to Claim 1, wherein charactermed in that CAT is a canon of a quaternary azafluorenone dye
- 20. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein characterised in that CAT* is a cation of a cyanine dye.
- 21. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein characterised in that CAT is a cation of a carbocyanine dye.
 - 22. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein character-

ised in that CAT' is a carion of an azacarbocyanine dye.

- (Currently Amended): A dve Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein character-23. ised in that CAT is a cation of a diazacarbocyanine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein characterised in that CAT is a cation of a triazacarbocyanine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein character 25. wed in that CAT' is a cation of a hemicyanine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to Claim 4, wherein character-26. used in that at CAT' is a cation of a diazahemicyanine dye.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to claim 1, wherein character-27. ised in that Y' is a cyanoborate of the formula II-1

$$[\beta(CN)_{y1}F_{4-y1-x1}(R^0)_{x1}]$$
 (II-1)_x

wherein and

- is denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4. уl
- is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and λl
- is denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkyl- ${I\!\!R}^0$ aryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if yl is >2.
- (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to claim 1, wherein character-28. ised in that Y is a fluoroalkylphosphate of the formula II-2

$$[P(C_{n2}F_{2n2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]^{-}$$
 (II-2),

wherein with

is 1 to 20,

m2 is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

v2 is 1, 2, 3 or 4

1, 2, 3 or 4.

29. (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to claim 1, wherein character is it is a fluoroalkylborate of the formula II-3

$$[B(C_{p3}F_{2p3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3)₄

wherein with

- p3 <u>is</u> 1 to 20,
- m3 is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and
- y3 <u>is</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4;

——where 3,3'-diethoxyethyl-2,2' thiadiearbocyanine trifluoromethyltrifluoro-borne is excluded.

30 (Currently Amended): A dye Dyes according to claim 1, wherein character-ised in that Y is an imide of the formula II-4

$$[(C_{yx}F_{2p+1-m4}H_{m4}XO_{y4}) N (C_qF_{2q+1-k}H_kXO_{y4})]^{-} (II-4)$$

wherein and the variables

- X is denotes carbon or sulfur.
- p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$,
- $q = is \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{$
- y4 <u>is denotes</u> 1 or 2,
- m4 is 0 if p4 is 0, and
- k 15 () if q is 0.

where m4 = 0 if p4 = 0 and k = 0 if q = 0,

with the proviso that

if X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1, and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II 4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F

31. (Currently Amended): A process Process for the preparation of a cationic dve

dyes according to claim 1, said process comprising; characterised in that

reacting a compound of the general formula XXI

CATTA" (XXI),

where CAT is a cation selected from the group of the azine, sunthene, polymethine, styryl, azo, tetrazolium, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium, benzothiopyrylium, thiazine, oxazine, triurylmethane, diarylmethane, acridine, quineline, isoquineline or quaternised azafluorenene dyes

wherein and A' is denotes Cl', Br', I', BF₄', PF₆', ClO₄', sulfate, tosylate, hydrosulfate, triflate, trifluoroacetate, acetate or oxalate,

to reacted with a compound of the goneral formula XXII

wherein where Y is un anion selected from the group CAB', FAP', FAB' or Im',
where CAB' conforms to the general formula (II-1)

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yl -denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4;

*1 denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁶—denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated uryl, cycloalkyl or alkyluryl, with the condition that R⁶ may be hydrogen if y 1 15 > 2.

where FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

with

---- p2: 1 to 20,

where FAB conforms to the general formula (II 3)

p3 1 to 20;

m3 — 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y3 — 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im conforms to the general formula (II 4)

—
$$\{(C_{pq}F_{2p+1-m}H_{2q}XO_{pq}) \ N \ (C_{q}F_{2q+1-m}H_{2q}XO_{pq})\}^{-}$$
 — (II 4)

und the variables

X — denotes 0 to 20 and 0 \leq m4 \leq 2p+1+1,

q — denotes 0 to 20 and 0 \leq k \leq 2q+1,

y1 — denotes 1 or 2,

where m1 = 0 if p4 = 0 and k = 0 if q = 0,

with the provise

if X-15 sulfur, y4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y4 denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1, and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II 4 may be bonded to one unother by sangle bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or

E' is a cation selected from cations of the alkali metals, alkaline earth metals or of a metal from group 11 and 12, ammonium, alkylammonium containing C_t-C₄-alkyl, phosphonium, alkylphosphonium containing C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and Θ guanidinium.

(Currently Amended): A process Process for the preparation of carbocyanine 32. dye dyes according to Claim 21, where the carbocyanine dye conforms to the formula XXIII

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & R' & R' & R' \\
 & C & C & C \\
 & R & R' \\
 & R & R'
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & C & C \\
 & R \\
 & R \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & XXIII \\
 & R \\
\end{array}$$

wherein in which

fully substituted by F., and

- 18 denotes 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,
- in each case, independently of one another, is denotes alkyl, alkenyl, R cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, and
- in each case, independently of one another, is denotes H, Cl, Br, I, alkyl, partially or fully chlorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, N(alkyl)2, C(O)H, C(O)alkyl, C(O)aryl, CN, N=N-aryl, P(aryl)2, NHC(O)alkyl or

NHC(O)aryl and

the ring system, represented by

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
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18 denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which optionally contains muy furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical is optionally may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z,

is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO2, F, Cl. Br. I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF3, 2 COOalkyl, CH2-COOalkyl, NH2. NHalkyl or N(alkyl)2

and

whore

is an anion selected from the group CAB', FAP', FAB and or lm', ¥.

where

CAB conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{vi}F_{4-vi-ai}(R^0)_{ai}]^{-}$$
 (II-1)

und

is denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4, yl

is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3, and x1

is denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R0 may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{n2}F_{2n2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2)_x

with

p2 [[:]] is 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

FAB' conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{n3}F_{2u3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3).

with

p3 [[:]]is 1 to 20,

m3 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y3 [[:]] <u>is</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4.

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Im conforms to the general formula (II-4)

$$[(C_{y4}F_{2p4\tau1\cdot m4}H_{m4}XO_{y4}) N (C_{q}F_{2q\tau1\cdot k}H_{k}XO_{y4})] \qquad (II-4)_{s}$$

and the variables

18 denotes carbon or sulfur, X

18 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$, **p4**

is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$, q

is denotes 1 or 2, у4

whore

is [[=]] 0 if p4 is [[=]] 0, and m4

is [[=]] 0 if q is [[=]] 0, and

the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F:

with the proviso that

if X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or $q \ge 1$,

and where the ourbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II 4 may be bunded to one another by single bends, where the resultant alkylone chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

said process comprising utilizing characterised in that use is made of a compound of the formula XXIV

where the ring system, R, R' and Y' have one of the meanings indicated in the case of formula XXIII, and

- n <u>is denotes</u> 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and
- G is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)₂, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl.
- 33. (Currently Amended): A compound according to Compounds of the formula XXIV

where

- n 15 denotes 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
- G is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)2, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl,
 - R is denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,
- R¹ is in each case, independently of one another, denotes H, Cl, Br, L alkyl, partially or fully entorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, N(alkyl)₂, C(O)H, C(O)alkyl, C(O)aryl, CN, N=N-aryl, P(aryl)₂, NHC(O)alkyl or NHC(O)aryl, and

the ring system, represented by

18 denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, optionally containing which may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical is optionally may be monoor polysubstituted by Z.

Z is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO₂, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF₃, COOalkyl, CH₂-COOalkyl, NH₂, NHalkyl or N(alkyl)₂,

and

where

Y is an amon selected from the group CAB, FAP, FAB and or Im,

whate

CAB' conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{y1}F_{4-y1-x1}(R^0)_{x1}]^{-}$$
 (II-1)_x

und

yl <u>is denous</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

R⁰ is denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkyl-

aryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{p2}F_{2p2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2),

with

p2 [[:]]15 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB' conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{03}F_{2p3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3),

with

p3 is 1 to 20,

m3 is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y3 <u>is</u>1, 2, 3 or 4,

whore

lm conforms to the general formula (ff-4)

$$\left[\left(C_{pq} F_{2p4+1-m4} H_{m4} X O_{y4} \right) N \left(C_q F_{2q+1-k} H_k X O_{y4} \right) \right]^* \qquad (II-4),$$

and the variables

X is denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$,

u is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$,

y4 <u>is denotes</u> 1 or 2.

where

m4 <u>is</u> [[=]] 0 if p4 is [[=]] 0_1 and

k = is [[=]] 0 if q is [[=]] 0,

where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, and the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F;

with the provisos that:

If X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and

if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1,

and where the earbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II 4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant-alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by P.

34 (Currently Amended): A process Process for the preparation of a compound the compounds of the formula XXIV according to Claim 33, said process comprising reacting characterised in that

a compound of the formula XXV

in which

A is denotes Cl., Br., I, BF₄, PF₆, ClO₄, sulfate, tosylate, hydrosulfate, triflate, trifluoroacetate, acetate or oxalate,

the ring system, represented by

is denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which opponalty further contains may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms, and in which the heterocyclic radical is optionally may be monoor polysubstituted by Z,

- is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO2, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF3, Z COOalkyl, CH2-COOalkyl, NH2, NHalkyl2 or N(alkyl)2,
 - is denotes 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
 - 15 donotos alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, R
- is in each case, independently of one another, denotes H. Cl. Br. I. alkyl, \mathbf{R}^{1} partially or tully chlorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, N(alkyl)2, C(O)H, C(O)alkyl, C(O)aryl, CN, N=N-aryl, P(aryl)2, NHC(O)alkyl, or NHC(O)aryl, and
- 15 denotes hydrogen, aikyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)2, CONHaryl, G C(O)aryl, or CONHalkyl,

is renoted with a compound of the formula XXVI

XXVL

in which

E+ is a cation of the alkali metals, alkaline earth metals or of a metal from group 11 and 12, ammonium, alkylammonium containing C1-C4-alkyl, phosphonium, alkylphosphonium containing C1-C4-alkyl, or guanidinium, and

where

Y is an anion selected from the group CAB, PAP, FAB and of Im,

Where

CAB' conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{vi}F_{4-vi-xi}(R^0)_{xi}]$$
 (II-1).

and

- 15 denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4, yl
- is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3, and хl

 $R^0 = 18$ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R^0 may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where

FAP' conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{p2}F_{2p2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2).

with

p2 [[.]] is 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

FAB conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{\mu 3}F_{2p3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3),

with

p3 <u>is</u> 1 to 20,

in3 is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y3 <u>is</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

Im conforms to the general formula (II-4)

$$[(C_{\rho *}F_{2\rho 4+1-m 4}H_{m 4}XO_{y 4}) \ N \ (C_{\nu }F_{2q+1-k}H_{k}XO_{y 4})]^{*} \qquad (\Pi - 4)_{*}$$

and the variables

X is denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$.

q 15 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$,

y4 is donotes 1 or 2,

where

m4 <u>is [[=]]</u> 0 if p4 is [[=]] 0, and

k = is [[=]] 0 if q is [[=]] 0,

where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula fl-4 may be bouded to one another by single bonds, and the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F:

with the provisos that

if X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or $q \ge 1_7$ and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II 4 may be bonded to one unother by single bonds, where the resultant alkylone chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

35. (Currently Amended): A process Process for the preparation of a compound compounds of the formula XXIV according to Claim 33, with the restriction that n in formula XXIV is denotes 0, characterised in that said process comprising:

rescring a compound of the formula XXVII

in which

G is denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $N=C(R)_2$, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl, or CONHalkyl, and

R is denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

and

the ring system, represented by

is denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which optionally further contains may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms, and in which the heterocyclic radical is optionally may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z.

Z <u>is denotes</u> hydrogen, alkyl, NO₂, F, Cl, Br, L OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF₃, COOalkyl, CH₂-COOalkyl, NH₂, NHalkyl, or N(alkyl)₂.

in-reacted

with a compound HY,

where

Y' is an anion selected from the group FAP', FAB' and or im',

where

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{p2}F_{2p2+1-m2}H_{m2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]^{*} \hspace{0.5cm} (\text{II-2})_{4}$$

with

p2 [[:]]is 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [(:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

FAB' conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{y3}F_{2p3+1+m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3)

₩₩ħ

p3 is 1 to 20,

m3 15 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y3 <u>is</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

Im conforms to the general formula (II-4)

$$[(C_{pq}F_{2p^{q}+1-m4}H_{m4}XO_{y4}) N (C_{q}F_{2q+1-k}H_{k}XO_{y4})]^{*}$$
 (fl-4)

end the vuriables

X js denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$.

 $q = i \le \frac{4e_{notes}}{1} 0$ to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$.

y4 is denoted 1 or 2,

where

m4 \underline{i} [[=]] 0 if p4 \underline{i} s [[=]] 0, and

 $k = \frac{15}{15} [[=]] 0 \text{ if } q \text{ is } [[=]] 0,$

where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one

another by single bonds, and the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

with the provisos that

if X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1, and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula R 4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

36. (Currently Amended): A process Process for the preparation of an azo dyes according to Claim 6, where the whetein said azo dye conforms to the formula XXVIII

$$(R'-N=N-R'')^{+} Y - XXVIII$$

where

R' and R'' are each denote aryl or heteroaryl and one of the two aromatic nuclei is positively charged, and

whore

Y' 18 an anion selected from the group CAB', FAP', FAB' and er Im',

where

CAB conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{yi}F_{+yi-xi}(R^0)_{xi}]$$
 (II-1),

und

yl <u>is denoted</u> 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 <u>is denutes</u> 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

 R^0 is denoted alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R^0 may be hydrogen if yl is >2,

where

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{\mu 2}F_{2\mu 2+1-m2}H_{\mu i2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2),

with

p2 [[:]] <u>is</u> 1 to 20,

m2 [[:]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

whoro

FAB conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{03}F_{2p3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{y3}F_{4-y3}]$$
 (II-3).

with

p3 is 1 to 20,

is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and m3

15 1, 2, 3 or 4, у3

where

lm' conforms to the general formula (II-4)

$$[(C_{pq}F_{2p4\tau 1\cdot mq}H_{m4}XO_{r4})N(C_{4}F_{2q+1\cdot k}H_{k}XO_{r4})]$$
 (II-4),

and the varubles

is donotes carbon or sulfur. X

is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$, **p**4

is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$,

is denotes 1 or 2, у4

where

 \underline{is} [[=]] 0 if p4 \underline{is} [[=]] 0, and m4

 \underline{is} [[=]] 0 if q \underline{is} [[=]] 0, k

where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, and the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

said process comprising reacting characterised in that a compound of the formula XXIX

where R' and Y' has one of the meaning indicated in the case of formula XXVIII,

is reacted

with \underline{an} the aromatic cyclic or heterocyclic compound $R^{\prime\prime}$.

(Currently Amended): A compound according to Compounds of the formula 37.

XXIX

XXIX R'-N2+

in which

is denotes aryl or heteroaryl, and

where

Y' is an anion selected from the group CAB', FAP', FAB' and or lm',

where

CAB conforms to the general formula (II-1)

$$[B(CN)_{yl}F_{+yl-xl}(R^0)_{xl}]$$
 (fl-1),

and

is denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4, уl

is denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3, and хl

is denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R^0 may be hydrogen if yl is >2,

FAP conforms to the general formula (II-2)

$$[P(C_{p2}F_{2\mu2+1-\mu n2}H_{\mu\mu2})_{y2}F_{6-y2}]$$
 (II-2),

with

p2 [[:]] is 1 to 20,

m2 [[.]]is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

y2 [[:]] is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where

FAB conforms to the general formula (II-3)

$$[B(C_{\rho 3}F_{2\rho 3+1-m3}H_{m3})_{\nu 3}F_{4-\nu 3}]$$
 (11-3).

with

is 1 to 20, р3

15 0, 1, 2 or 3, and m3

15 1, 2, 3 or 4, у3

whore

Im conforms to the general formula (II-4)

$$[(C_{pa}F_{2p4r1-ma}H_{ma}XO_{y4})N(C_{q}F_{2q+1-k}H_{k}XO_{y4})]^{T} \qquad (II-4)$$

and the variables

X is denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le m4 \le 2p4+1$,

q is denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \le k \le 2q+1$,

y4 <u>15</u> denotes 1 or 2,

where

m4 = is [[=]] 0 if p4 is [[=]] 0 and

k = is [[=]] 0 if q is [[=]] 0,

where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formulae II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, and wherein the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F:

with the provisor that

if X is sulfur, y4 is denotes 2, and if X is carbon, y4 is denotes 1 and p4 or q ≥ 1; and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formulae H 4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

- 38. (Currently Amended): In a method of Use of the dyes according to claim 1 for colouring plastics and plastic fibres, preparing for the preparation of flexographic printing inks, as ball-point pen pastes, or as stamp ink, for colouring leather and paper, in preparing cosmetic formulations in the paints industry, or coloring in biochemistry, biology, medicine, analytics or electronics, the improvement wherein a dye according to claim 1 is used for coloring.
- 39. (Currently Amended): In a method of using a dye Use of the dyes according to claim 1 in data acquisition systems, reprography, in ink microfilters, in photogatvanics, laser technology or the photo industry, the improvement wherein said dye is a dye according to

claim 1.

- 40. (Currently Amended): In a method of using a dye Use of the dyes according to elaim 1 for CD recorders, DVD recorders (DVD+R, DVD+RW), Bluray disc (BD-ROM, BD-R, BD-RE), computer to plate, laser filters, laser marking or photopolymerisation, the improvement wherein said dye is a dye according to claim 1.
- 41 (New): A dye according to Claim 28, wherein CAT is a cation of a polymethine dye.
 - 42. (New): A dye according to Claim 28, wherein p2 is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8.
 - 43. (New). A dye according to Claim 28, wherein p2 is 2, 3 or 4.
- 44. (New): A dye according to Claim 28, wherein Y is $PF_3(C_2F_5)_3$, $PF_3(C_4F_9)_3$, $PF_3(C_3P_7)_3$ or $PF_4(C_2F_5)_2$.